MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE POST-GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT 'EZHILMALAI): Sir, I move:

That in pursuance of clause (g) of Section 5 read with sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Act, 1966 (51 of 1966), this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among the Members of the House to be a member of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

RE. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a small submission. While replying to Question No.122, the hon. Minister of State for Planning as well as Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had made a statement. According to me and many of my colleagues that has tantamounted to misleading of the House. Therefore, many of us have submitted notices of privilege. I hope, Sir, you will take that into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will look into it. Now, we take up Special Mentions. Shri Shatrughan Sinha - not present. Shri Ramachandra Pillai.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Fall in Prices of Rubber and its Adverse Impact

SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI (Kerala): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House again the sad plight of peasants in Kerala. There is a drastic fall in prices with regard to rubber and coconut. The rubber price has come down from Rs. 60/- to Rs. 30/- per kilogram. There is also a drastic fall in the prices of coconut. So, these falls in prices have thrown the life of many lakhs of peasants in Kerala, many lakhs of workers in Kerala to great hardship and difficulties. After the opening up of imports, the price fluctuation is to steep and now the price fluctuation has become an instrument to exploit the poorer sections. This is because the poorer sections, the middle-class do not have enough resources to keep their harvest till a favourable opportunity to sell. Because of the price fluctuation mostly the poorer sections are affected. Now the new export and import policy is opening up all the areas. It has decided to import almost all agricultural commodities like fruits, vegetables, spices and other crops. This will further aggravate the situation. With regard to rubber, Sir, they are not only importing natural rubber, they are also importing used tyres and other used rubber products. This is a cause for the drastic fall in the prices of rubber.

I request that the Government should take immediate steps for putting a stop to the import of natural rubber, import of used tyres and other used rubber products. The Government should also come forward in fixing a fair price taking into consideration the cost of production of rubber, cost of production of coconut and other crops. The Government should declare a price for these crops. It should open purchasing centres. This alone will help the persons who are affected by the drastic fall in the prices of crops. Thank you, Sir.

Enlistment of unqualified Medical Practitioners

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the practice of native medicine is age-old. The native medicine practitioners are serving the rural people especially for jaundice, bones, snake bite, etc. There are also Homoeopathy, Siddha, and Unani practitioners in the rural areas. This has been age-old. In the Indian Medical Council